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ABSTRACT

Intended for those who work with adult learners in postsecondary institutions, this book discusses special learning needs adults may have and related issues, tools, and strategies. Chapter 1 presents an overview of the demographics and issues that adults with disabilities face as they seek opportunities to learn. Chapter 2 explores the diversity of adult learners and describes disabilities and how they may affect learning. Chapter 3 discusses strategies and accommodations that persons with different disabilities may need. Chapter 4 provides suggestions, strategies, and resources for developing an inclusive learning environment, carrying out organization-wide programs and training initiatives, and examining curricular and academic issues related to disabilities. Chapter 5 focuses on special services and programs to assist the learner with special needs within the institution or organization. Chapter 6 discusses networks and collaboratives as resources for information. Chapter 7 presents the important role of advocacy and self-advocacy. Chapter 8 discusses trends and future directions. Appendixes contain the following: an outline of an academic course in self-advocacy; annotated list of 8 associations and organizations related to education, higher and postsecondary education, or employment; list of 131 associations and organizations related to disabilities and services; annotated list of 17 print, organizational, and electronic communication resources; 33 references; and index. (YLB)

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